

HOW TO IDENTIFY PREDATORY PUBLISHERS

for authors and reviewers of academic works

JOURNALS AND WEBSITES QUALITY

Before submitting a manuscript, have a glance to journals and books published online: verify any information provided by the publisher's website and the quality of the editorial offer. Check if contents are really indexed in reputable databases. Pay attention to false impact factors and misleading metrics!



A tool that helps you identify trusted journals: <https://thinkchecksubmit.org>



PUBLISHERS AND DISCIPLINARY FIELDS

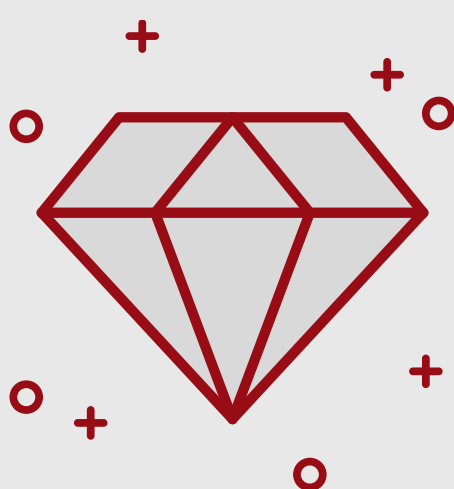
A "newborn" publisher cannot deal with a large amount of academic fields. Carefully analyze proposals from "quite recent" publishers, or presumed ones, who publish online journals or books covering a wide variety of disciplines.

A tool that helps you identify trusted OA journals: <https://doaj.org>



ETHICS OF PEER REVIEW AND CONTENT SELECTION

A too fast peer review or a default length acceptance time are warning signs. The strength of a journal or book series is reflected in the members of its editorial board: a small number of editors, a "coming soon" or a improperly defined editorial board, might be indicators of poor quality.



TRANSPARENCY IN PUBLISHING COSTS

Publication charge or Open Access' Article Processing Charge (APC), should come in the form of a publication fee that is paid only when an article is accepted for publication. The amount of the fee should be stated clearly, before submission, on the journal or publisher's website.